IN THE CLAIMS:

Please CANCEL claims 1-18 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the recited subject matter.

Please ADD new claims 19-30, as follows. For the Examiner's convenience, all claims currently pending in this application have been reproduced below:

1-18. (Canceled)

19. (New) An information processing apparatus used for an exposure system, said apparatus comprising:

a generation unit which generates a parameter file described in a markup language based on a parameter used in the exposure system, the parameter file including information for displaying an image concerning at least one of a shot layout and a sample shot for an exposure process to be performed by the exposure system, and a program for editing the image; and

a providing unit which provides the parameter file to another information processing apparatus out of the exposure system.

20. (New) An apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the program is described in a script language.

21. (New) An apparatus according to claim 19, further comprising a first reception unit which receives the parameter from the exposure system.

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22. (New) An apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said providing unit transmits the parameter file to the other information processing apparatus.

23. (New) An apparatus according to claim 19, further comprising a second reception unit which receives the parameter file from the other information processing apparatus.

24. (New) An apparatus according to claim 19, further comprising a transmitting unit which transmits a parameter edited via the program to the exposure system.

25. (New) An information processing method used for an exposure system, said method comprising steps of:

generating a parameter file described in a markup language based on a parameter used in the exposure system, the parameter file including information for displaying an image concerning at least one of a shot layout and a sample shot for an exposure process to be performed by the exposure system, and a program for editing the image; and

providing the parameter file to another information processing apparatus out of the exposure system.

26. (New) A method according to claim 25, wherein the program is described in a script language.

27. (New) A method according to claim 25, further comprising a first reception step of receiving the parameter from the exposure system.

28. (New) A method according to claim 25, wherein said providing step transmits the parameter file to the other information processing apparatus.

29. (New) A method according to claim 25, further comprising a second reception step of receiving the parameter file from the other information processing apparatus.

30. (New) A method according to claim 25, further comprising a transmitting step of transmitting a parameter edited via the program to the exposure system.